

In This Spring's Migration (1878)  
In the Hudson Highlands

In a paper read by ~~one~~ <sup>a</sup> member of the Linnean Society "on the animal and vegetable life of the <sup>past winter</sup>," the author has given us, <sup>among other things</sup> a careful account of the avifauna of the lower Hudson, <sup>which he</sup> ~~prefaces~~ <sup>with</sup> remarks on "one of the most remarkable winters, as regards mildness and freedom from snow and cold, ever experienced in this latitude." In conclusion the author remarks, after alluding still farther to the unusual mildness of the winter: "Should the conditions now suffer a relapse after the expression of confidence, so to speak, manifested both in animal & vegetable life, the effect would probably be disastrous; but on the other hand, if the rapidly advancing season experiences no retardation, one of the earliest springs on record will be the result." We now know how prophetic was this last remark. We have indeed experienced a remarkably early season, and all ornithologists have doubtless observed more or less of its effects upon <sup>the</sup> early northward migration of Birds. As this has been the universal experience, I will not go into the details of the migration as a whole; but will dwell <sup>briefly</sup> upon some of its most notable effects upon <sup>movements of the</sup> the birds of this region, and



noticed some of the rarer, or peculiar forms which have visited us during the Spring; <sup>and</sup> ~~not mentioning~~ the dates of arrival of a number of species: -

p. 428.

~~Helminthophaga~~ Turdus migratorius. - Found a nest containing four eggs April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Turdus pallasi. - First seen April 15<sup>th</sup>; scarce,

<sup>and irregular</sup>  
Turdus ~~pallasi~~ <sup>rusticulus</sup>. - Arrived April 30. Found a nest, in company with Mr. Osborn, which contained one egg May 11<sup>th</sup>. Several empty nests were found the same day.

Harporhynchus rufus. - arrived April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mimus carolinensis. - Arrived Apr. 27<sup>th</sup>. Found two nests, ~~one~~ of which contained two, and the other four eggs. May 15<sup>th</sup>.

<sup>\*</sup>  
Troglodytes aedon. - arrived April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Telmatodytes palustris. - <sup>shot by Osborn</sup> ~~Arrived~~ May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mniotilta varia. - First seen Apr. 26<sup>th</sup>.

Parula americana. - Mr. Osborn shot the first specimen April 27<sup>th</sup>, at Highland Falls.

Helminthos remurorum. - Arrived May 11<sup>th</sup>.

when Osborn shot the first specimen in Putnam County, where we saw several of them. After <sup>which</sup> ~~that~~ they were abundant.

Helminthophaga chrysoptera. This species was first shot by Mr. Osborn <sup>on the forenoon of</sup> May 10<sup>th</sup>, near his residence, at Garrison's. Visiting the same swamp, latterly. Later in the day others were seen. On the following day I captured another specimen, and afterwards found them at Highland Falls. They were last

Ceithra  
farinularis

Swamp  
April 1st. 1878



<sup>at H. A.</sup>  
 seen, on the 25th of May, where they were  
 probably breeding, <sup>and on which occasion</sup> ~~when~~ Mr Osborn shot a  
 beautiful specimen. I have found this  
 species less abundant even, than H. pinus,  
 whose nest I have taken. I have not  
 seen chrysoptera before since May 12th, 1875,  
~~when a single Helminthophaga ruficapilla~~  
 Only one bird seen this spring; a male  
 shot <sup>on the 10th of May</sup> in the large swamp, at Garrison's, where  
chrysoptera was first seen. The species is  
 generally very abundant in the orchards -  
Dendroica aestiva was first seen May 9th.

virius do 9th.

caeruleus do 4th

blackburniae do 7th.

strata First seen, <sup>by</sup> Mr Osborn 9th.

<sup>he</sup>  
 which Mr. Osborn procured two adult males  
 at Garrison's.

Dendroica castanea was first noticed, May 22.

maculosa do May 8th

pennsylvanica do " 3rd

palmarum I shot 1st specimen <sup>at Garrison's April</sup> 20th.

pinus First shot April 15th.

Lanius monticola. - Two specimens were  
 shot by Mr. Osborn on April 19th after  
 which they were abundant on both  
 sides of the river. A female that I col-  
 lected May 7th contained an egg nearly  
 ready for extrusion. On May 15th I  
 found a newly completed nest, which con-  
 tained six eggs on the 22nd. A nest  
 that I found on the following day contained



Five (5) slightly incubated eggs. They were subsequently found breeding in considerable numbers along all the brooks, tho' I had no time to search for nests.

Lanius naevius. - Arrived on the 26th of April, when I procured some fine specimens. Last seen May 24th, when a pair was shot, the female of which gave evidence of being about to nest, probably at no great distance.

Lanius aurocapillus, Arrived April 26th.

Geothlypis trichas. - Arrived in numbers May 4

Found two nests, each containing 4 eggs May 24.

Myiodiastes nigratus. Arrived May 4th 2 shot

Myiodiastes canadensis. - do 10th.

Selphya viridis arrived May 6th.

Selophaga ruticilla. - 27th.

Pyrranga rubra Arrived May 3rd.

Airundo horreorum. - First seen April 23.

Tachycineta bicolor. - Seen at Fishkill Apr. 18th.

Petrochelidon lunifrons. - Not seen until 11th May.

Cotyle riparia. - Entirely escaped our notice.

Progne subis. - do

Chrysomitris tristis. Mr. C. J. Huyler writes me from Lenape, New Jersey, opposite New

<sup>under date of May 10th.</sup>  
Berkendale, that "Chrysomitris tristis have already built & are hatching". If Mr Huyler's observations are correct, as they doubtless are, they only go to prove still farther the uncertainty & irregularity as regards their time of nesting, as I have taken fresh egg lots in September. In this respect they present a case ~~case~~ precisely analogous to that of the Amphispiza cedrorum, which are well